CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE DELEGATIONS OF EGYPT, ETHIOPIA, INDONESIA, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), KENYA, MEXICO, MONGOLIA, MOROCCO, MYANMAR, PERU, SRI LANKA AND VENEZUELA DELIVERED AT THE 691ST PLENARY MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT HELD ON 6 SEPTEMBER 1994

Paragraph 20 of the Final Document of the first Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to Disarmament underscores the importance of effective measures of nuclear disarmament and prevention of nuclear war as deserving the highest priority among measures of arms limitation and disarmament. The document, in paragraph 32, reaffirmed also the need for effective arrangements, as appropriate, to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, which could strengthen the security of those States and international peace and security.

Following the demise of the Cold War, dramatic positive changes have taken place in the international political climate. As a consequence, the world has witnessed the arrangement of a number of significant arms limitation and disarmament agreements. The precedent of the conclusion of the Chemical Weapons Convention, the beginning of a process of nuclear disarmament by the United States and the Russian Federation, and the measures taken by other former Soviet Republics in the framework of complete nuclear disarmament demonstrate clearly that nuclear disarmament is not only within the frame of practical implementation but can also be achieved in the foreseeable future if only the political will exists. Apparently, less reliance is now being placed by nuclear-weapon States on the role of nuclear weapons. The process of the de-emphasizing of this role and reducing the dependence upon them should be continued and carried forward as a significant step towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

The Non-aligned Conference recently held in Cairo reiterated the belief that, in order to be effective and lasting, the approach towards international security should be non-discriminatory and balanced and should seek security for all through total nuclear disarmament, elimination of all weapons of mass destruction and progressive measures of reduction of conventional arms. The Conference restated that security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States can contribute positively to addressing some of the dangers inherent in the

presence of nuclear weapons and urged the Conference on Disarmament to negotiate, as a matter of priority, an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances and to undertake negotiations for the complete elimination of all nuclear weapons within a time bound framework.

Accordingly, the members of the Group of 21 already parties to the NPT attach utmost importance to both questions of negative and positive security assurances. It is their conviction that the only completely effective security assurances against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons lie in the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons, nuclear disarmament and complete elimination of these weapons. Existence of nuclear weapons constitutes in itself a threat to international security and a factor which encourages proliferation. For this reason, and pending the achievement of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against these weapons, and to elaborate measures and arrangements which can contribute positively towards achieving the most effective regime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects.

In this respect, the delegations of the Group of 21, States Parties to the NPT wish to present to the Conference a draft protocol on security assurances which would be attached to the Non-Proliferation Treaty as its integral part. They are confident that the Protocol drafted on the basis of a simple common formula (i.e.: the nuclear-weapon States pledge themselves never to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States) would be given early and serious consideration by the members of the Conference on Disarmament. The text of the Protocol is annexed below.

ANNEX

DRAFT PROTOCOL ON SECURITY ASSURANCES

Preamble

The States Parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty,

Convinced that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Regarding that the only credible guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons lies in the total elimination of such weapons,

Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to devise effective measures to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council on the question of strengthening the security of non-nuclear-weapon States,

Taking into consideration the unilateral solemn declarations made by nuclear-weapon States on some guarantees given to non-nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling their obligations to refrain, in their mutual relations, from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations Charter,

Have agreed as follows:

I. Definitions

1. The term "nuclear-weapon State" referred to in this Protocol refers to the definition given by the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

2. The term "non-nuclear-weapon State" referred to in this Protocol refers to all States other than those which fall under the above definition of a nuclear-weapon State.

II. Basic obligations

1. In accordance with Article 2, paragraph 4 of the Charter of the United Nations, each State undertakes to refrain in its international relations from the threat or use of force against another State, its territorial integrity and its political independence.

2. The nuclear-weapon States pledge themselves not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States.

III. Measures in case of non-compliance

1. Any State which has reason to believe that there has been or is likely to be a breach of the obligations of the States Parties arising from Article II of this Protocol may request an urgent meeting of a Conference of the States Parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, and/or the Security Council, under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, with a view to preventing such a breach or redressing the situation arising therefrom.

2. In the case of a nuclear aggression or a threat of aggression against a non-nuclear-weapon State, the Conference of the States Parties and the Security Council should provide to it the necessary help and assistance.

IV. Duration

This Protocol constitutes an integral part of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and shall remain in force as long as the Treaty remains valid or as long as complete elimination of nuclear weapons has not been achieved.

V. Entry into force

This Protocol shall enter into force under the same conditions as the Non-Proliferation Treaty.